

Message Text

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TO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
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USICA

FOR ECA

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: VISIT OF YOUNG MIDDLE EAST POLITICAL LEADERS,
ORGANIZED BY ACYPL

REF: STATE 074450

1. FOLLOWING ARE POST'S NOMINEES FOR SUBJECT PROGRAM.
WE UNDERSTAND OUR TWO NOMINEES WOULD BE FUNDED BY ICA REGIONAL
FUNDS WITH NO CHARGE TO POST'S EXCHANGE ALLOCATION.

2. PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE: MALIKI, HABIB; AGE 33; PROFESSOR
OF ECONOMICS, MOHAMMED V UNIVERSITY AND MEMBER CENTRAL
COMMITTEE UNION SOCIALISTE DE FORCES POPULAIRES (USFP);
PREVIOUS TRAVEL: TO CANADA IN 1972 UNDER CANADIAN GOVT
PROGRAM, NEVER VISITED U.S.; SPEAKS FRENCH, ARABIC, NO
ENGLISH; YOUNG SERIOUS ECONOMIST, WORKS HARD FOR HIS PARTY,
HAS EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN U.S. AND U.S. METHODS.

3. PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE: MAKHLOUF, IBRAHIM; AGE 32; PRESIDENT
OF ERRACHIDA MUNICIPALITY; NEVER VISITED U.S., SPEAKS FRENCH,
ARABIC, NO ENGLISH; MR. MAKHLOUF, AN INDEPENDENT, WAS ELECTED
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PRESIDENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ER RACHIDIYA IN NOVEMBER 1976.
HE WAS PREVIOUSLY A MEDICAL AIDE AND SERVED WITH THE MINISTRY
OF HEALTH IN MEKNES. SOMETHING OF A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH, HE
IS A NATURAL POLITICIAN AND HAS BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP
EXCELLENT RAPPORT WITH A WIDE RANGE OF CONSTITUENTS. HE IS
HIGHLY ENERGETIC AND ENTHUSIASTIC, AND VERY MUCH ON TOP OF
HIS JOB. IT WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING TO SEE HIM RISE IN THE RANKS

OF THE PRO-GOVERNMENT INDEPENDENTS IN THE YEARS TO COME.

4. FIRST ALTERNATE: TERRAB, MOUHCHINE; AGE 35; CHIEF OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION AND OF REGULATIONS AND DIRECTOR OF THE CASABLANCA INTERNATIONAL FAIR; SPEAKS FRENCH, ARABIC, NO ENGLISH; AS ASSISTANT TO THE GOVERNOR FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AND HENCE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING, COORDINATING, AND MONITORING THE GROWTH OF THE PREFECTURE OF CASABLANCA, TERRAB OCCUPIES A KEY POSITION IN THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE COUNTRY. NEWLY RECRUITED FROM PRIVATE INDUSTRY TERRAB IMPRESSES THOSE WHO MEET HIM AS AN EXTREMELY ABLE AND DYNAMIC YOUNG MAN. HE IS BRISTLING WITH IDEAS, AND EXPRESSES HIMSELF WITH GREAT CLARITY AND FORCE. TERRAB WOULD MAKE A LASTING AND FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON THOSE WHOM HE MIGHT MEET DURING A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES.

5. SECOND ALTERNATE: BAKKA, FATIMA ZORA; AGE 32; DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL OFFICE OF COOPERATIVES; SPEAKS FRENCH, ARABIC, NO ENGLISH; MLE. BAKKA ALTHOUGH RELATIVELY YOUNG IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST RANKING WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE. AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF COOPERATIVES HER INFLUENCE IS FELT IN ALL PROVINCES AND AFFECTS THE LIVES AND WELL-BEING OF OVER A MILLION WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. SHE HAS COMPLETED HER THIRD CYCLE OF UNIVERSITY TRAINING IN FRANCE WITH EMPHASIS ON ECONOMICS AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS. ALL OF HER MALE COLLEAGUES WHO STUDIED WITH HER IN FRANCE ARE HIGH OFFICIALS IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE GOVERNMENT INCLUDING MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS (SECRETARY GENERAL). IT HAS BEEN RUMORED IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES THAT SHE MIGHT VERY WELL BE THE FIRST MOROCCAN WOMAN TO BE APPOINTED MINISTER. DURING THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN 1977 MLE. BAKKA WAS NOT A CANDIDATE (THERE WERE PRACTICALLY NO WOMEN CANDIDATES, AND THOSE WHO DID PRESENT THEMSELVES FAILED), BUT SHE WAS NONETHELESS ACTIVE IN SUPPORT OF MALE CANDIDATES WHO BEST REFLECTED HER OWN POLITICAL VIEWS. RENTSCHLER

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